



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

DEC 13 1997

In re the Application of

Jean-Noel THOREL et al.

Application No.: 08/860,231

Filed: July 25, 1997

Docket No.: WPB 39818

For: NUTRIENT MEDIUM WHICH CAN BE USED AS A CULTURE MEDIUM FOR
EPIDERMAL CELLS AND APPLICATIONS

GROUP 1800

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

pre/a

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-
identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1 of the claims, line 1, change "CLAIMS" to --What
is claimed is:--

line 2, delete "in response to the second
written opinion".

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-18 and add the following new
claims 19-69:

--19. A composition for topical use comprising:

(a) a complex nutrient medium comprising at least some
amino acids, a vitamin, a cell growth factor, and an inorganic
salt, wherein said medium supports viable ~~in vitro~~ growth of
human epidermal keratinocytes with at least one clonal
proliferation of said keratinocytes in the first passage, and

A